

careful monitoring of any still existing localities, the species might be kept going until such time as more old elms are available to support it once more in its former state. If such can be done, the future may, indeed, be much brighter than it would at present appear.

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BEHAVIOUR OF *LYCIA LAPPONARIA* (BOISDUVAL) IN SUNSHINE. — Spring lepidoptera were at least three weeks late in Inverness-shire in 1978, so that on 2nd May Mr. Richard Fairclough and I found over a dozen males and twenty females of *Lycia lapponaria* on a fence which crossed a growth of bog myrtle near Loch Laggan. The time was noon to 1 p.m.; there was brilliant sunshine in a cloudless sky, but a bitter north east wind. With few exceptions the males were resting torpidly low down on the shady side of the posts, though one paired couple was found in sunshine. The females, on the other hand, mostly apparently newly emerged, were all on the sunny side and crawling slowly upwards. Many had reached the flat, lichen covered, tops of the posts, where they sat in full sun, propped on their forelegs and with antennae extended, as if praying to the sun-god. Many of the males appeared to be also newly emerged but showed no sign of a similar need for warmth. Three days later in a similar locality, with probably a higher air temperature but heavy cloud and no sunshine, we could find only three males and no females. — R. F. BRETHERTON, Folly Hill, Birtley Green, Bramley, Guildford, GU5 0LE.